Mrs. Marina Oswald Porter
1850 FM 550
Rockwall, TX 75807

7/7/95

Dear Marina,

Please do not let self-consciousness about your spelling keep you from writing. Although I was an ~~enidot~~ editor, after 15 years of no writing and little reading my spelling was terrible and I forgot all the laws of grammar. My grammer now is instinctive. If I write something really important my wife reads and corrects it first! And it is neither the slight accent you have nor you voice or speaking that interferes with my comprehension. It is my hearing, with hearing aids. Without them I hear nothing. As you noticed when my wife came over she had no trouble understanding you. And as a ~~boy~~ boy I had little trouble with accents much heavier than yours! Some kind.

When we spoke about Martin I did not tell you that I also told the truth about him and how he arranged a deal for you that took 35% off the top. He got 15%, Robert got 10% and the remaining ten went to the lawyer. But nothing else.

Newman neither knows nor has tried to learn the basic facts of the assassination and thus what he says about it in Oswald and the CIA is usually wrong in varying degrees and is largely from the work of others, others who do not know much more about the fact than he does. I mentiond only Duran and Bringuier in telling you how wrong he is but that is permeating in his book. And much worse than I indicated to you. I do give both of those matters considerable attenion in what I wrote.

The one time I did ask something of you it was as I recall for you, getting Lee's tax returns. That required a privacy waiver under the law, as interpreted. I think that with him dead it did not but I was not all that interested in it.

While there is no question about it, with those who do not know you or the fact Mailer hurt your reputation, you have nothing to be ashamed of, nothing to feel guilty about (and I went into that in what I've written) and nothing to apologize for. If anyone asks you about what Mailer wrote, the simplest and truthful answer is how ~~can~~ can you argue with a liar who has an endless supply of lies? As you may not have seen on your own, he even published the proof that he lied, intending to lie. Under the circumstances you did remarkably well after the assassination, under difficult circumstances. That is who I recommended that if the sociologists at local Hood College were interested it would be very good for you to make an oral history with them. You may want to learn more about what sociology is in the event there is such an opportinity in the ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ future. It is not at all like psychology. I think that would be helpful in may ways, including as a valuable record for our history. I recommended Hood because it is still largely a woman's college and when I suggested it to you the woman vice president and dean was a sociologist. I have two dear friends who teach sociology at two other colleges, if you ever want to learn more about that. Best wishes,

Harold